

Mrs. Crawford carried her passion for education and community development with her outside of the classroom. She served as the local director for the Child Development Center and worked hard to secure the resources local students needed to succeed. In fact, she was a key advocate in obtaining \$350,000 in federal dollars from the Community Development Block Grant to benefit Desert Highland Park. Thanks to her efforts, Desert Highland Park now offers essential community services for local students and their families, including recreational, educational, and vocational programs.

The legacy of Mrs. Crawford's work is incredible. In the 1980s, she helped organize the very first Black History Month Parade in Palm Springs—a parade our community continues to proudly host each year. In all her years of volunteering and service, her tremendous work did not go unnoticed. The Palm Springs City Council and the California Baptist Convention Women's Auxiliary awarded her numerous commendations. In 1997, she was honored with the Terra Volunteer Award from the Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce. In 2012, she was recognized yet again for her commitment as a community leader and educator when Riverside County awarded her the Community Service Award.

Mrs. Crawford is survived by her children, Benita, Gil, Gwendolyn, and Randy. She is also survived by her nine grandchildren, Symeyon, Kenneth, Jarvis, Kristen, Usavia, Nyssa, Kyle, Deiter, and Javanni. I extend my deepest condolence to each of them. I also want to share my special condolences and support for my friend and her grandson, Jarvis. He, like his grandmother, continues to advocate for his community through social justice initiatives and uphold her legacy of making sure those who are in need, can find solace in community.

May Mrs. Crawford's work continue to uplift and inspire.

TAYLER PAINE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tayler Paine for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Tayler Paine is a student at Arvada West H.S. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tayler Paine is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Tayler Paine for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF
THE LIFE OF ELANA THOMAS

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of a special member of my community, Ms. Elana Thomas, who went to be with her Savior on March 1, 2021.

Elana was born May 7, 1948, in the small rural community of Sneads, Florida. Surrounded by pine forests and agricultural land, Sneads and greater Jackson County are home to hard-working men and women, many of great faith and fortitude. Elana was no exception.

Her life was not marked by monetary wealth or great business achievements, but her impact within her community was vast. She was not an elected official, but she was a leader to those who knew her. She was a trusted counselor and friend to many, a sounding board, and a valued advisor. She will be sorely missed, but those who knew her in life are assured she is in a much better place. Her faith in God was the bedrock she built her life upon.

Elana was a devoted church member of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church for more than 30 years, often serving as a lay speaker or leading songs during services. She taught teens during Sunday School and was the president of the church's ushers' ministry. She had a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible, which she read and studied every day. She would often quote scripture to folks in crisis, providing them with relatable passages that might help them get through the period of turmoil they were experiencing. She counseled those in distress, providing loving and kind advice and direction to those who sought it from her.

She ministered with members of her church to inmates at nearby Apalachee Correctional Institution, volunteering her time and treasure to help men who had strayed from the path regain their footing for an eventual successful restoration back to their communities. She performed local missionary work, helping those less fortunate with a helping hand, a kind word, and a shoulder to lean upon.

When her mother fell ill, she diligently visited her every day she was able, in the assisted living facility, even after her own health made it difficult to do so. When her mother passed away, it was Elana who gave the eulogy, speaking eloquently and from the heart about her mother to the assembled family and friends who came to mourn her passing. Elana never let her health issues deter her from the service she was called to do.

Madam Speaker, allow me this moment to express condolences to Elana's family, friends, and colleagues. Though her presence will be sorely missed by many, I pray we may find solace in remembering her legacy for years to come. On March 13, 2021, family and friends traveled from far and near to celebrate her life and her church family was in attendance in great numbers. In the words of Bishop Adrian Abner of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church, "Elana lived a life of devotion to those less fortunate. She was a woman of great faith and prayer and a treasured member of this

church and our community. She touched many with her kindness in word and deed." She leaves treasured memories with one son, Eddie D. Lovett, II and wife Susan of Raleigh, North Carolina; one brother, Jimmy Walker of Oxon Hill, Maryland; two grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends. I join the entire community in honoring Elana Thomas for her dedicated life of service to others.

TRIBUTE TO THE OHIO NATIONAL
GUARD

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. STIVERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of the 15th Congressional District of Ohio to express sincere gratitude to the dedicated men and women of the Ohio National Guard for their exemplary commitment to service and to our great State.

Since the creation of the force in 1788, these extraordinary individuals have prioritized the health and safety of communities from Wilmington to McConnelsville, from Hilliard to McArthur. But in the past year, the citizen-soldiers of the Buckeye State have truly embraced their role as a "trusted team of soldiers, airmen, and civilians," serving through "agility, collaboration, excellence, and leadership."

Through a once-in-a-generation pandemic, the Ohio National Guard provided invaluable support. From manning food banks and managing COVID-19 testing locations at the onset of the pandemic, to now administering vaccines to their fellow Ohioans, our State is incredibly grateful for their service.

As the coronavirus raged, our nation saw a period of social unrest unlike anything in recent decades. Once again, the Ohio National Guard answered the call. Whether it was the Statehouse in Columbus, or the Capitol in Washington, our soldiers were willing to put their own safety in jeopardy in order to ensure the wellbeing of their fellow citizens.

Perhaps at no point in recent history has more been asked of our National Guard, and at no point have they answered with more conviction. They worked diligently day-in and day-out, never failing to embody the motto, "Always Ready. Always There."

As a Major General, and as a Member of Congress, I am filled with pride and gratitude of these men and women and of the sacrifices that they have made. It is an honor to recognize their hard work, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in expressing thanks for all that they have done, and all that they will do, for Ohio and our nation.

VINCENT VIGIL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Vincent Vigil for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Vincent Vigil is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his

determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Vincent Vigil is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Vincent Vigil for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I was absent on April 13, 2021. I designated Mr. GOSAR as my proxy. Mr. GOSAR attempted to proxy vote for me, but was advised by floor staff that he was not the proxy. Because of this misunderstanding, Mr. GOSAR did not proxy vote on my behalf. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 98.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF JOHN YOUNG

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of John Young, a remarkable community leader and activist who spent more than 30 years uplifting underserved communities in the North Bay Area.

John was born on October 25, 1952 in San Francisco, CA. He grew up in Marin City and attended Tamalpais High School and College of Marin. John went on to study public policy at San Francisco State University, where he developed a passion for social justice.

Recognizing the need to confront economic, health, and education inequities, John committed his career to championing more inclusive social policies. At the Marin City Community Development Corporation, John went to bat for the community that raised him, helping to plan and launch critical revitalization projects. The Canal Neighborhood in San Rafael benefitted from John's talents as an organizer and housing specialist for the Canal Community Alliance. John also successfully managed more than \$5 million in grants for programs supporting low economic and disadvantaged populations across the Bay Area.

John was a skilled problem solver who was able to effect change by bringing people together. In founding the Marin County Grassroots Leadership Network, he assembled a coalition for underrepresented residents to unite and speak with one voice. This helped secure more equitable policy outcomes, including housing, transportation, labor, and voting rights. In addition, more than 300 rising leaders were mentored and trained through the organization.

Friends, family, and colleagues knew John for his big personality that could brighten any room. With a deep sense of compassion and a people-first attitude, John embodied all the qualities of a fierce community organizer. Although he will be sorely missed, John's legacy will live on through the lasting positive impact he had on our community and beyond.

John's hard work made a transformative difference in the lives of many. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolence to John's family and friends and in expressing our deep appreciation for John's extraordinary career and life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ANNISTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Anniston High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team on their recent 4A state title.

The Anniston team beat Booker T. Washington-Tuskegee 54-52 in Birmingham at CrossPlex's Bill Harris Arena, clenching the state title.

This marks the school's first state title since 2009.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Anniston High School Boys Basketball Team. Congratulations to Coach Torry Brown and the Anniston High School staff and students. Go Bulldogs.

INSULAR AREA MEDICAID PARITY ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. SABLÁN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Northern Mariana Islands Wage and Economic Stability Act. This legislation delays for 18 months, in the Marianas only, any national increase in the federal minimum wage that Congress may enact. My bill, also, requires a Government Accountability Office report on the economic impact in the Marianas of such a national wage increase.

Unlike the rest of our nation, where minimum wage has been static, the minimum wage in the Marianas has more than doubled over recent years to reach the federal level of \$7.25.

These substantial increases have made life better for thousands of Marianas families and encouraged more U.S. workers to enter the workforce.

But I had to carefully time those increases year-by-year with legislation and based on the help of Government Accountability Office reports to ensure—successfully—that wages went up without jeopardizing jobs.

Economic conditions in the Marianas remain separate from the national situation. Whereas Gross Domestic Product rose nationally in 2019, in the Marianas GDP plunged 11.2 per-

cent that year. That decline came after a 19.3 percent decrease in 2018. And it is reasonable to expect the picture in the Marianas for 2020 will be no better. Our tourism-based economy will remain dormant until the pandemic has passed. Meanwhile, nationally, we expect growth on the order of 6 percent this year.

My point is simply this: If we are going to raise the wage in the Marianas—and, believe me, I do—then we must do it as we did before: with a close eye on the economic conditions in the islands. They are vastly different than conditions in the nation as a whole.

Again, I fully support raising the minimum wage in our country. It has been static too long. I am a cosponsor of the Raise the Wage Act—I want workers to earn more.

I believe the best way to accomplish that goal in the insular area I represent, however, is through my legislation, the Northern Mariana Islands Wage and Economic Stability Act. My bill will give Congress the analytical tools and the time to consider how best to schedule wage increases in the Marianas to improve the lives of workers and their families, while ensuring the businesses employing those workers can thrive.

TREY BELLAMY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Trey Bellamy for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Trey Bellamy is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Trey Bellamy is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Trey Bellamy for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

JOHN LEWIS NIMHD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021, which expands eligibility for research endowments available through the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to include former centers of excellence at health professional schools and biomedical and behavioral research institutions